

Message

From: Bohan, Suzanne [bohan.suzanne@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/6/2021 6:25:23 PM
To: Schefski, Kenneth [Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov]; Starfield, Lawrence [Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: update

Thanks!

Suzanne

From: Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 11:22 AM
To: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: update

It has been shared with the DRAs and I'm sure Deb has taken it into consideration, since it would affect any paperwork that needs to be processed for a DRA detail. I have a meeting with Deb tomorrow morning and will talk with her about filling the DRA role while she's acting RA and will consult with Elise as needed. It's also on our agenda today for a monthly call with the RCs/DRCs, so I'll get a sense of what's happening in the other Regions. I think it's a good decision to limit Larry's email to DAAs.

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From: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 10:44 AM
To: Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>
Cc: Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: update

Suzanne,

Here are some notes from Elise Packard in OGC and her memo, FYI. The language I highlighted and the final bullet in her paper relate to this issue. I thought Donna had said that they didn't want a domino effect of multiple Actings, but perhaps that relates only to HQ and DAAs (given that there will likely be no political appointees for a while in the Regions, it does make more sense to have Acting DRAs). In any case, I think I'll drop the reference to the DRAs since it's outside of my purview. Cc'ing K.C. in case he had a similar question.

Larry

From: Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2021 12:22 PM

To: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: update

Larry –

This looks great. Interesting point about the DOJ opinion. Deb has selected an acting DRA to begin on 2/1/21. Do you know whether this DOJ opinion has been shared with the DRAs?

Thanks,

Suzanne

From: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 6, 2021 9:34 AM

To: Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>; OECA Office Directors and Deputy Directors <OECA_Office_Directors_and_Deputy_Directors@epa.gov>; Johnson, Kathleen <Johnson.Kathleen@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>; Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Eileen <Mayer.Eileen@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: update

Excellent point. Thanks, Dave.

Larry

From: Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2021 11:31 AM

To: Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>; Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>; OECA Office Directors and Deputy Directors <OECA_Office_Directors_and_Deputy_Directors@epa.gov>; Johnson, Kathleen <Johnson.Kathleen@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>; Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Eileen <Mayer.Eileen@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: update

Larry –

Agree, looks good. People will appreciate this.

I'd consider sometime soon giving a reminder to folks about extra importance during transition of no surprises and early elevation. Probably not in this note, but maybe verbally next time you are on a call with ECAD Directors and RCs, or something like that. Last go around, we established some decent cred by letting incoming folks know about things before they heard about it some other way.

Dave

From: Kelley, Rosemarie <Kelley.Rosemarie@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2021 10:08 AM

To: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>; OECA Office Directors and Deputy Directors <OECA_Office_Directors_and_Deputy_Directors@epa.gov>; Johnson, Kathleen <Johnson.Kathleen@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>; Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Eileen <Mayer.Eileen@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: update

Larry—

This looks good. You have a typo – “Acting DAAs or Acting DAAs.” You probably meant DRAs and DAAs.

It would be helpful for folks to know that Susan will be here for the remainder of the Administration. I would add that information to this note.

Rosemarie

From: Starfield, Lawrence <Starfield.Lawrence@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2021 10:56 AM

To: OECA Office Directors and Deputy Directors <OECA_Office_Directors_and_Deputy_Directors@epa.gov>; Johnson, Kathleen <Johnson.Kathleen@epa.gov>; Bohan, Suzanne <bohan.suzanne@epa.gov>; Schefski, Kenneth <Schefski.Kenneth@epa.gov>; Cozad, David <Cozad.David@epa.gov>; Shiffman, Cari <Shiffman.Cari@epa.gov>

Cc: Mayer, Eileen <Mayer.Eileen@epa.gov>

Subject: update

Here's a brief update on the transition that I'd like to send to all OECA staff soon. Your comments and suggestions would be very welcome. And we can discuss it with the ODs/Deputies at this afternoon's meeting. Thanks.

Larry

OECA colleagues:

I want to share a quick update on the transition process here at EPA. The President-Elect's transition team has nearly completed its work, and I had a good discussion with members of the team before the holidays. My understanding is that the incoming Administration has identified about a dozen staff who will begin work at the Agency on or around January 20th, including one appointee within OECA; however, I do not yet have information on the name of the person who will be joining us.

While we continue to look to Susan and John for their leadership today and through the end of this Administration, I did want to share a bit of information about how the Front Office will operate post-inauguration. Upon Susan's departure, by operation of the Vacancies Reform Act, I will carry out the responsibilities of the Assistant Administrator for OECA on an acting basis, until the new Administration designates a new AA or a new Acting AA. Consistent with a recent DOJ opinion, we have been told that there will not be Acting DAAs or Acting DAAs, but "Senior Advisors" may be named to help with workload. Since I expect to have a political appointee join us very soon after the inauguration, it seems prudent to wait until then to decide if we need to bring on another person in the Front Office. In any event, during the time I am serving as the Acting AA for OECA, I will continue to depend heavily on the excellent support of the OECA senior managers, our terrific Lead Region team, and all of you to continue the important work of OECA. I'll do my best to facilitate and help guide that work.

If you have any questions, please let me know. As I did four years ago, I will endeavor to provide regular updates to you as I receive additional information.

Thank you.

Larry

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